EXCISE D5

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B.1.A5

INQUIRE=DOC17D
ITEM NO=00405565
ENVELOPE
CDSN = LGX101 MCN = 92092/42355 TOR = 920922240
OTTCZYUW RUEKJCS5253 0922242-CCCC--RUEALGX.
ZNY CCCCC
HEADER
O 012242Z APR 92
FM JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC
INFO RUENAAA/CNO WASHINGTON DC
RUEAHQA/CSAF WASHINGTON DC
RUFGAID/USEUCOM AIDES VAIHINGEN GE
RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM
RULSJGA/COGARD INTELCOORDCEN WASHINGTON DC
RUWTPGA/12 AF BERGSTROM AFB TX//IN//
RUEOACC/CDRPSYOPGP T BRAGG NC//AORC-POG-SB//
RUANJTF/CJTF FOUR
RUWANGC/CJTF FIVE//J20//
RUWSMXI/MAC INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL//IN//
RUCQVAB/USCINCSOC INTEL OPS CEN MACDILL AFB FL
RUWTKDA/CJTF SIX
RULKQAN/MARCORINTCEN QUANTICO VA
RUEALGX/SAFE
O 012154Z APR 92
FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8650
RUEBWJA/USINS WASHDC
RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM//SCJ2/
RUEOHNA/CDR7THSFGA FT BRAGG NC
RUEABND/DEA EPIC
RULGSGG/COMLANTAREA COGARD//NEW YORK NY/AOO/AI/AO//
RUEHNA/DEAHQS WASHDC
RUEADWW/NSC WASHDC
RUEBWJA/USINS WASHDC
RUCOCGA/USCG PORTSMOUTH VA
RHEHOND/ONDCP WASHDC
RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM//SCDCS/SCJ2-DEA-LNO/SCCG//
RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC//CD-JIC-TS//
RUEHTA/USIA WASHDC//2061 2096
RUEAITA/CIAHQS WASHDC
RULSJCA/COMCOGARD WASHDC//OLE/CI/O//
BT
CONTROLS
C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LA PAZ 005253

STATE FOR ARA/AND, INM
DEAHQS FOR A, AD, DO, AO, OF, OFL, OC OC/SNOWCAP, OIOC
INS PLEASE PASS TO BORDER PATROL
NSC FOR R. BEERS
ONDCP FOR J. WALTERS
USIA FOR AR

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
IS/FPC/CDR Date: 5/26/95
[ ] RELEASE [ ] DECLASSIFY
[X] EXCISE [X] DECLASSIFY IN PART
[ ] DENY
[ ] DELETE Non-Responsive Info
FOIA Exemptions B1 B5
PA Exemptions
MR Cases Only:
EO Citations
TS authority to:
( ) CLASSIFY as ( ) S or ( ) C OADR
( ) DOWNGRADE TS to ( ) S or ( ) C OADR

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR

/********** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE **********/
BODY
TAGS: SNAR, BL
SUBJECT: SITUATION REPORT FOR OPERATION "GHOST ZONE" AS OF APRIL 1, 1992.

REF: (A) LA PAZ 05165 (B) LA PAZ 05116 (C) LA PAZ 04843 (D) LA PAZ 04787 (E) LA PAZ 05029

1. CONFIDENTIAL ENTIRE TEXT.

2. THE PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE CHIMORE BASE CAMP ARRANGED FOR SUBSECRETARY FOR SOCIAL DEFENSE GONZALO TORRICO AND MEMBERS OF THE BOLIVIAN PRESS REGARDING OPERATION GHOST ZONE WAS VERY POSITIVE. SIX UH-LH HELICOPTERS WERE UTILIZED TO FLY THE PRESS CORPS TO SINAHOTA, CASTILLO, ISIBORO AND EL ONCE. COL. ROGELIO VARGAS, THE CHAPARE UMOPAR COMMANDER, BRIEFED SUBSECRETARY TORRICO AND THE PRESS CORPS ON MAJOR TRAFFICKER ARRESTS, SEIZURES AND TERRORIST CONNECTIONS IN THE CHAPARE.

3. ON MARCH 30, A TRAFFICKER AIRCRAFT WAS INTERCEPTED BY UH-LH HELICOPTERS AS IT ATTEMPTED TO LAND AT PUERTO AURORA. THE AIRCRAFT WAS able TO OUTRUN THE HELICOPTERS AS IT RETURNED TO THE LA MEDIA AREA.

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UH-LH, PC-7 AND CESSNA AIRCRAFT WERE PLACED ON STATION WHICH EFFECTIVELY DENIED THE TRAFFICKER AIRCRAFT ACCESS TO THE CHAPARE. THIS AIRCRAFT WAS THE FOURTH AIRCRAFT DENIED ACCESS TO CLANDESTINE AIRSTRIPS IN THE CHAPARE BY GHOST ZONE AIR ASSETS.

4. A STRIKE OPERATION INTO THE TOWN OF AROMA UTILIZING UMOPAR/DEA PERSONNEL WAS CONDUCTED ON MARCH 31 IN AN ATTEMPT TO CAPTURE A BASE VHF/HF RADIO STATION

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THIS OPERATION WILL BE CONDUCTED AGAIN UTILIZING A SOURCE OF INFORMATION WITH THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF CAPTURING MAJOR TRAFFICKER AKA COMBO AND THE TOWN NARCO BOSS FROM SAN BORJA JORGE SUAREZ.

5. RIVERINE TEAMS STATIONED AT CHOKE POINTS FOR THE CHAPARE RIVER SYSTEMS STOPPED AND SEARCHED TWENTY VESSELS, AND PROVIDED CORROBORATING INTELLIGENCE ON RECENT TRAFFICKER AIRCRAFT SIGHTINGS. UMOPAR/DEA PERSONNEL CONDUCTED PATROLS THROUGHOUT THE SINAHOTA AREA WHICH RESULTED IN THE SEIZURE OF A BASE LAB AND THREE KILOGRAMS OF COCAINE BASE.

6. A STRIKE RAID WAS SCHEDULED AT 4:00 A.M. AGAINST A DEPOSITO (STORAGE SITE) AND RADIO BASE STATION IN THE EL ONCE AREA. THESE FACILITIES BELONG TO THE EL SEBAS ORGANIZATION, ONE OF THE MAJOR TARGETTED ORGANIZATIONS IN THE CHAPARE. THE CLANDESTINE RAID DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH FOUR ABOVE WILL BE ATTEMPTED LATE THIS AFTERNOON BEGINNING WITH A NIGHT INSERTION OF UMOPAR/DEA PERSONNEL FOR A FIRST LIGHT STRIKE ON APRIL 2.

7. INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION FROM ALL SOURCES INDICATES THE MAJOR TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATIONS ARE STANDING DOWN AND SUSPENDING OPERATIONS FOR ONE MONTH INSTEAD OF THE WEEK PERIOD OF TIME PREVIOUSLY REPORTED. APPARENTLY, THESE ORGANIZATIONS REALIZE GHOST ZONE WILL BE A LONG-TERM OPERATION. SOME TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATIONS ARE STEPPING UP THEIR EFFORTS TO PURCHASE WEAPONS WITH WHICH TO DEFEND THEIR NARCO ASSETS IN THE CHAPARE VALLEY, INCLUDING THE INTRODUCTION OF AN ARMED AIRCRAFT (NFI). THE COMBO ORGANIZATION, WHICH IS

/****** BEGINNING OF SECTION 002 ******/
UNDER DIRECT CONTROL OF THE CALI CARTEL, IS THE ONLY ORGANIZATIO
N INCREASING THE TEMPO OF ILLICIT OPERATIONS IN THE CHAPARE.

8. DECLARATIONS AGAINST 48 MAJOR TO MID-LEVEL TRAFFICKERS HAVE BEEN OBTAINED, THEREBY PAVING THE WAY FOR BOLIVIAN COURT ACTION. INTERVIEWS AND INTERROGATIONS OF DETAINEES ARE CONTINUING IN AN EFFORT TO IDENTIFY THOSE INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED IN NARCO-TRAFFICKING AS OPPOSED TO THOSE INDIVIDUALS WHO CAN BE RELEASED. BOWERS

ADMIN

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